Vigorous reaforestation in forest areas cleared for Hill Paddy, etc. Organisation and development of a nucleus of forest reserves and museum attached to the Department. These are a few items.

Demand put and carried

34. Rs. 10,000 under "12—1—Forests B 8a"

Mr. S Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 for the payment of dearness allowance to the staff sanctioned for the fuel supply and development divisions.

Demand put and carried

35. Rs. 1,620 under "12—2—Tramway B1 b1"

36. Rs. 1,485 under "12—2—Tramway B2 b3"

37. Rs. 1,620 under "12—2—Tramway B2 d1"

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I may be allowed to move the next three items together.

Mr. President: Yes.

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* It is anticipated that three lakhs of ballies and 20,000 telegraph posts will have to be supplied to the Military. It would increase the tramway service three times and an additional staff has to be entertained. A list of the staff to be entertained is given in the note to the Standing Finance Committee. There is no provision for this in the Budget as it was not anticipated. I request that a total amount of Rs. 4,725 may kindly be sanctioned.

Demands put and carried

Legislative Business—Government Bills

The Cochin Panchayat Bill

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, in presenting the Select Committee Report on the Cochin Panchayat Bill I move that the Bill as modified by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, there are certain amendments. We propose to discuss these amendments this evening so that the business might be expedited. I request the Chair to postpone the conidertaion of the Bill clause by clause to tomorrow.

Mr. President: Yes.

The Cochin Employment of Children Bill

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate—General):* Sir, I wish to present the Cochin Employment of Children Bill as reported on by the Select Committee and in presenting that report I wish to confine myself to a brief statement of facts so that the House may be appraised of the small changes made by the Select Committee, which sat to consider this Bill. Clause 3 of the bill which contemplated the prohibition of the employment of children who have not completed their 15th year in occupations connected with the transport of passengers, goods or mails by wailway was considered by the select committee to be rather too wide in its scope and therefore regard being had to local conditions and on account of the fact that some members of the select committee considered that certain people are earning their livelihood by such work, that clause has been deleted. Similiarly when we come to the schedule appended to this Act two small changes have been made. One is with regard to Beedi making. It was considered that there is no harm at all in cutting the leaves and similar work connected with Beedi making.

Then with regard to the manufacture of matches. In the Original bill children were pohibited from employment in the manufacture of matches, explosives and fireworks. The Select Comittee has taken away "matches" from the schedule. There is no harm in employing children in making the box and the pasting of paper which has nothing to do with the actual tipping of the sticks which alone is considered to be dangerous. The Select committee considered that there were a large number of children employed in this work and that they should not be divested of their means of livelihood regard being had to conditions prevailng in Trichur and ther places. The Select Committee resolved to make these three changes. I

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therefore reuquest that the House may be pleased that the Bill as reported on by the Select Comittee may be taken into consideration.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secrtary to Government)*:—I second it

Motion put and carried
Clauses 2 to 11 put and carried
Schedule put and carried
Clause 1 and title and preamble put and carried

The Starting of Kuries Restriction Bill

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts)* :—Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Cochin Starting of Kuries Restriction Bill.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: I second it.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts)*:—In commending this Bill for the kind acceptance of the House, I do not think any great speech is required. The Bill is a very simple one and its clauses are self-explantory. The Bill aims at two objects chiefly, one to control the floating of new kuries in the State, and the other to provide for the safe investment of prize-money due in respect of "kainarak" and other "naraks" owned by certain classes of Company Foremen. Of late, it is a well-known fact that the influx of surplus money in the State has been very great as all over India. Even an ordinary man finds that his surplus cash has increased far beyond his expectatins and he is in the search for new sources of investment; and kuri foremen were alive to the situation and they have begun to start kuries all over the land in very large number. In 1118, for example, we had 90 new kuries started in the land and in 1119, new kuries rose to 153, and these have drawn a "sala" of over 3 lakhs of rupees in 1118 and over 8 75 lakhs in 1119. Government do appreciate the starting of these kuries, but they do feel that some sort of restriction in the starting of these kuries is very much required. We have had very better experiences in the past of some at least of these kuries. Kuries are started by all sorts of foremen, some of them somewhat speculative in nature and others of a very impecunious position in life. They have got to be controlled and therefore Government proposed to introduce clause 2 of this Bill, whereby prior sanction of the Government has to be obtained for the starting of these Kuries. The other important provision of thes Bill is that certain classes of foremen are compelled to invest in proper securities a portion of the prize money of the tickets drawn by them. The present practice, as the Hon'ble Members are aware, is that foremen of Kuries have got the Kainarakku amount for themselves and in many Kuries which are common in Trichur and in some other places the 6th and the 12th Narak Tickets are also drawn by them by provision in the vaimnpu. All these amounts are appropriated by the Foremen and Government consider that this appropriation by the Foremen of these amounts should not also go unrestricted. Of course in doing so Government have to take into consideration the position of all these Foremen. It may not be quite appropriate that all the Foremen are compelled to invest the amounts drawn by them in proper securities. Government have considered this question and have come to the conclusion that for the present at least only such of the foremen, Company foremen, as could easily imvst inproper securites without much of a difficulty for them should be compelled to do so, Accordingly they have provided in Section 3 that such of the Company Foremen who have got a paid up capital of 25,000 rupees or a working capital of 3 lakhs of rupees alone should be compelled to invest and that also only up to the extent of 75 percent of these Kuri amount. While this provison of the Bill serves as an anti-inflationary measure also, it will be seen that it will be very good in the long run both in the interests of the subscribers as also of the foremen themselves. Therefore it is that the Government have considered that this is also a very desirable provision in the Bill on the whole is generally a very innocuous one a very necessary one in the interests of the country at large and I request that the House may be pleased to pass this Bill into law.

*Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: Sir, I beg to oppose this Bill. In the first place I would ask the House how it is an anti-in flationary measure. Every piece of legislation recently has been sought to be dealt with as anti-inflationary. We have had some experience of that in the Budget Session when two measures were introduced under this colour—there were two measures sailing under the flag of anti-inflation. But the House could see through it and both those Bills were turned down. Now comes again another under the colour of anti-inflation. What is the meaning of anti-inflation? Of course the objects and reasons it is considered necessary as anti-inflationary measure to impose certain restrictions and conditions on the starting of new Kuries. That is one idea.

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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